



Application Serial No.10/720,816  
Group Art Unit: 2883  
Attorney Docket No. 10010937-1

JF W

### CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on February 4, 2005.

Jacob N. Erlich  
Reg. No. 24,338

### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Thomas W. Stone, et al.  
Serial Number: 10/720,816  
Filed: November 24, 2003  
For: VARIABLE OPTICAL ATTENUATOR SYSTEMS

Attorney Docket: 10010937-1  
Group Art Unit: 2883  
Examiner: Dihn D. Chiem

AGILENT TECHNOLOGIES, INC.  
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To: Mail Stop Amendment  
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### AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated November 4, 2004, please consider the following amendment in this Application and consider the following Remarks that place this Application in condition for allowance. Applicants would like express their appreciation for comments of Examiner Chiem.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.